

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

District Two

October 2012 Edition

Inside this issue:

Welcome!

Fall has officially arrived! And while the temperature drops and the leaves change their color, I wanted to take a moment and share with you our October Edition highlighting informational programs, services and area events happening within our District Two community and beyond.

Know of any great community

events? Please share them with me by emailing cball@howardcountymd.gov.

If you are not already signed up to receive this newsletter, email "subscribe" to cball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

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MIHU Open Enrollment & Informational Buyers and Renters Workshop!

Howard County Housing has begun accepting applications for the October open enrollment period for the County's Moderate Income Housing Unit (MIHU) which will end **October, 31, 2012**. Housing will hold a **FREE "MIHU Buyers and Renters Workshop"** on **Wednesday, October 17** from **6:00pm-7:30pm** at the **Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia**. This event is **FREE** and open to the public and will explain the program's eligibility requirements and application process for prospective homebuyers and renters.

For registration and information, call Housing's MIHU Coordinator at **410-313-6318** or click [here](#).

LAST CALL... Entrepreneur Award Applications Due!

The celebration and honor Maryland business owners and educators with an entrepreneurial spirit, the Maryland Entrepreneur Awards (MEA) were created to recognize leaders throughout Maryland who exemplify the entrepreneurial spirit through business, technology and social awareness. Applications are due **Friday, October 5, 2012** and can be emailed to cathy@bizmonthly.com or sent to **Maryland Entrepreneur Awards, 5161 Ilchester Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21043**.

Applications for awards and tickets for the awards presentation to be held Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at 6:30pm at Howard Community College, click [here](#) and click on the MD Entrepreneur Awards yellow tab.

Fine Arts College Night!

Students who are interested in pursuing higher education in music, theater, dance or the visual arts are invited to learn about programs of study, the work experience, auditioning, portfolios and much more. On **Monday, October 8, 2012 6:45-9pm** at **Oakland Mills HS, 9410 Kilimanjaro Rd in Columbia**, a panel of college students, admission counselors and arts professionals will engage with students in grades 8-11 and their parents. For more details, contact your school transition coordinator or call **410-313-5640**.

Oakland Mills Cultural Arts Festival!



Bring your family, friends, and neighbors - rain or shine - to a festival where admission and fun is always free! Enjoy continuous family entertainment in the courtyard. Listen to the Oakland Mills High School Band open the festivities, let your children sing along with "Rocknoceros", enjoy the beats of "Unity Reggae Band," and feel the rhythm of the "FunDrum Rhythm Circle" with Jonathan Murray. Purchase unique crafts from local artisans and delicious festival food. Freebies include: health screenings, carnival popcorn, and kid's crafts.

This event will be held on **Saturday, October 6, 2012 11am-4pm** in the Oakland Mills Village Center. For more details, call **410-730-4610** or click [here](#).

10th Annual Celebration of Sports!

On **Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 5:30pm**, the Department of Recreation & Parks will host its 10th annual Celebration of Sports at **Turf Valley Resort, 2700 Turf Valley Road** in Ellicott City. They will be honoring outstanding individuals who have gained prominence and/or have made a substantial contribution to community recreational sports in Howard County. Event tickets are \$38/each or \$350 for a table of 10. For more details, call **410-313-1691**.



Volunteer Leaders Training!

Join us to discover the intricacies of planning and leading a volunteer project on **Tuesday, October 9, 2012 7-8:30pm** at the **Volunteer Center Serving Howard County, 10221 Wincopin Circle** in Columbia! Learn the process from start to finish and consider strategies for organizing and implementing effective and successful projects, perfect for families, friends, community groups, social groups & more.

You'll also learn what agencies need from volunteer projects and how to incorporate their needs into the process. Please register using the Volunteer Center's online portal via [this link](#). Email Mickey at mickey@volunteerhoward.org or call **410-715-3176** with questions or for additional information.

Choose Civility Symposium: 'Would it Kill You to Be More Civil?'



Join NPR's Korva Coleman a lively and timely dialogue about civility in public discourse on **Thursday, October 11, 2012 6:15-9:30pm** at the Howard Library's Miller Branch. It will feature bestselling author Henry Alford, The Baltimore Sun's editorial page editor Andy Green and David Frum a contributing editor at Newsweek. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Registration is required and residents can sign-up [here](#). For more info, call **410-313-7750**.

Family First: Positive and Practical Parenting!

Join us for a special series designed for parents and guardians raising children from birth to age 8. Learn about child development, how to encourage self-esteem and good behavior; positive guidance and discipline and how to keep children safe and healthy. Each class, offered in an interactive group format, will include practical tips and advice for handling common situations as well as hands-on activities. Classes are \$7/class and financial assistance may be available. The following sessions are still available:

- **Saturday, October 13 9-11:30am:** Establish Rules and logical consequences for misbehavior that are developmentally appropriate. Discuss ways to successfully communicate with your child and the importance of structure and consistency.
- **Saturday, October 27 9-11:30am:** Learn how to choose healthy, age-appropriate snacks, meals and beverages for children and how to plan ahead. Discuss common eating concerns, such as picky eaters or children who refuse to eat. Learn about safety-proofing your home for different ages; who to contact in an emergency; car seat safety and tips on how to protect your child from abuse.

For details, call **410-313-1940**.

HCPSS Needs YOU to Help Name Elementary School #41

The Howard County Public School system is seeking individuals interested in serving on a committee to select the name for the new elementary school in ElkrIDGE. Elementary School #41 is currently under construction on Ducketts Lane and is scheduled to open in August 2013.

BOE policy calls for all schools to be named in terms of geographical areas of the county and for duplication of names to be avoided. Names may refer to sections of the county, appropriate street locations, established neighborhoods or community identifications. Interested persons should contact **Arlene Harrison, Administrative Director of Elementary Schools** at 410-313-1518 or email Arlene.Harrison@hcpss.org by **Monday, October 15, 2012**.

Columbia Association Hosts Public Meetings!

The Columbia Association will host two public meetings to discuss legislation that would reclassify the villages as “nonprofit community service corporations”. Currently, they are designated as “homeowners” associations. THE CA Board of Directors and the boards of all 10 villages in Columbia will host these forums: **Tuesday, October 16 at 1pm and 7pm** in the **CA Headquarters, 10221 Wincopin Circle**.

There will be presentations that feature the proposed change and an opportunity for residents to offer testimony. On November 1, 2012, CA Board’s External Relations Committee will host a presentation and Q&A session on the proposed legislation with the Howard County Delegation, the County Council, and Columbia’s village boards. It will begin at **7pm** at **5430 Vantage Point Rd**. To learn more, click [here](#).

50+ Expo Delivers Information & Entertainment!

The ever popular 50+ EXPO has returned! On **Friday, October 19, 2012** from **9am-4pm** this carefully targeted event invites our 50-and-over crowd as well as younger adults with disabilities, their caregivers and family members for an all day event full of entertainment, information seminars, a health fair, including flu and pneumonia shots. For the 14th consecutive year, this event remains **FREE** and will be held at **Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Road** in Columbia. For more info, call **410-313-6410** or click [here](#).



HCPSS Hosts Public Hearings on 2013-2014 School Year Attendance Areas!

While the school year may have just begun, the Howard County Public School System is asking parents to start looking at head to the 2013-2014 school year attendance areas. HCPSS will present its redistricting plan on **Thursday, October 18 at 7:30pm** and will hold public hearings **Tuesday, October 23rd** and **Thursday, October 25th** at 7pm in the Board of Education Boardroom at the **Department of Education Building, 10910 Route 108** in Ellicott City. These meetings will also be broadcast live online at hcpssstv.com and on cable channels 42 (Verizon) and 95 (Comcast).

After the public hearings, HCPSS will hold four work sessions: **October 30, November 7, November 8 and November 13**. All will be held at 7:30pm. A final redistricting plan will be presented on **November 15th**. For more details, call **410-313-6600** click [here](#).

Teach Your Teens Safe Driving Techniques!

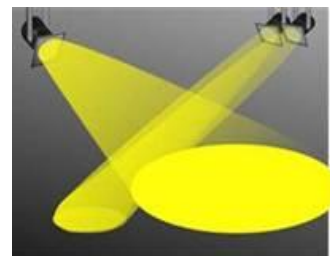
The Howard County Police Department promotes traffic safety and is now offering Collision Avoidance Training (CAT) which provides our youth the opportunity to develop safe driving habits. This is an advanced defensive driving and vehicle control program designed for licensed teenage drivers (16-19yrs). The objective is to enhance awareness and prepare teens to handle hazards that occur during in normal driving conditions.

The two day program (12 hours) will be offered: **October 19-20, November 16-17 and December 7-8**. Each student must successfully complete each driving skill/maneuver in order to receive a certificate of completion. The cost is \$95. For questions, please call **410-313-3758**.

Homestead Tax Credit – APPLY NOW!

Homeowners who have not yet filed for a Homestead Eligibility Application have until **Monday, December 31, 2012** to submit an application to continue being eligible for the credit. Legislation enacted by the 2007 session of the General Assembly requires homeowners to submit a one-time application in order to continue their eligibility for the credit which limits the amount of assessment increase on which a homeowner will pay property taxes in that tax year for their primary residence.

The application is required as some property owners were improperly receiving the credit on vacation homes and rental properties. To request an application, email HCredit@dat.state.md.us or click [here](#).



SPOTLIGHT ON HOWARD COUNTY!

I'd like to take a brief moment and acknowledge some outstanding organizations in Howard County whom I've had the privilege to present with an Honorary Resolution from the Howard County Council.

Oakland Mills Middle School, Celebrating 40 years of dedicated service and outstanding commitment to educating our students.
HC Fire & Rescue Services Paramedic Education Program, upon its national accreditation from The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.
Howard County General Hospital in celebration of being ranked as a high-performing hospital by the US News & World Report's 2012-2012 Best Hospital Rankings.

Plein Air: Fall Foliage – Landscape Painting Workshop!

Explore the palette of autumn in this four-day workshop with *plein air* artist Heather Leatherman. The first class will take place in the classroom at the Center for the Arts, reviewing materials and basic *plein air* techniques and practices. Subsequent days, you'll move to Centennial Park to explore color hue and temperature, composition, and scene. Ms. Leatherman is a three-time juried artist for *Paint It! Ellicott City* and winner of 2012's Best in Show award. Workshop Dates: **10/20-21, 11/3-4, 9am-12pm**.

Class is open to residents ages 14+. Cost: \$150 for Arts Council members, \$165 for non-members. For details, call **410-313-2787** or click [here](#).



10th Annual A+ Partners in Education Celebration!

Join us **Tuesday, October 23, 2012 5-6:30pm** at the **Miller Library, 9421 Frederick Rd** in Ellicott City for the 10th anniversary celebration of the A+ Partners in Education. This is a comprehensive partnership between and among HCLS, HCPSS and HCC. The reception begins at 5pm with remarks beginning at 6pm. For more info, call **410-313-1950**.

Lively Arts for Little Ones Presents: Pam the Kindersinger & Rascal!



Lively Arts for Little Ones presents: "Pam the Kindersinger and Rascal too!" on **Friday, October 26, 2012 at 10 am** at The Other Barn. Bring your little ones to Oakland Mills Community Associations' first show of the season and receive a special gift. Interactive fun with original and familiar songs, dancing, puppetry and lots of humor while emphasizing the season. Tickets are \$5.00 (ages 2 and up) and are available at The Other Barn. Please visit www.oaklandmills.org for more information.

Long Reach Halloween Party!

The Long Reach community is invited to a special event on **Saturday, October 27, 2012 1-2:30pm** at the **Stonehouse**. This event is geared towards children 10 years and older (Children must be accompanied by an adult). From 1-2, enjoy refreshments, decorating a pumpkin, crafts at the Art Center, and grab a Trick or Treat Bag with goodies. From 2-2:30pm, there will be a special magic show with Mike Rose. For details, call **410-730-8113**.

Seniors Lunch in Long Reach!

If you are 50+ and live in Long Reach, you are cordially invited to attend the fun luncheon at Stonehouse on **Thursday, November 1st**. For more details, call **410-730-8113**.

Recreation & Parks Announce Deer Management Program for 2012-2013!

Howard County's Department of Recreation & Parks has announced its fall/winter schedule of managed deer hunts. These hunts are held in an effort to help maintain a stable, balanced white-tailed deer population in our parks where deer browsing has been shown to reduce biodiversity. The hunting schedule is as follows but can also be accessed online at

www.howardcountymd.gov/deermanagement.htm

Alpha Ridge Park	
Bow & Shotgun	November 20; January 3; January 17
Blandair Park	
Bow Hunting	October 6; October 16; October 30; November 13; November 27; February 5
David Force Park	
Bow & Shotgun	October 11; October 25; November 8; January 8; February 6
High Ridge Park	
Shotgun Hunting	November 1; January 9; January 30
Middle Patuxent Environmental Area	
Bow & Shotgun	October 15; October 29; November 12; November 19; January 7; January 28; February 11; February 19
Schooley Mill Park	
Shotgun Hunting	November 26; January 2; January 15; January 29; February 12

Support Our Local Farmers... Visit a Farmers Market Near You!

Summertime is the perfect opportunity to go out in your local community and take advantage of our local farmers' markets. Buying local products helps our local economy and provides our residents a perfect opportunity to taste the freshest, most delicious products. This season you will find ripe produce, baked goods, fruits of the season, flowers, transplants, organically grown produce and specialty items. See below for a list of farmer's markets closest to you as well as important dates and times of operation.

Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place in Columbia

Hours of Operation: Sundays through **November 18** from 9am-1pm

Howard County Library – East Columbia Branch, 6600 Cradlerock Way in Columbia

Hours of Operation: Thursdays through **November 15** 2-6pm

WIC & Senior FMNP checks accepted at all markets. For a complete list of locations or for more details, visit www.HowardCountyFarmersMarkets.com.



Deck The Halls With Natural Materials!

You are cordially invited to join the Oakland Mills Community Association and the Master Gardeners of Howard County as they present tips on "Decking the Hall with Natural Materials". This event will be held on **Wednesday, November 28, 2012 7pm** at The Other Barn. Materials on the forest floor, in the supermarket and in the winter garden can be turned into decorations to instill the warmth of the holiday season into your home.

The program is free. Registration is preferred, but not required. For more info, call **410-730-4610** or visit Oakland Mill's [website](http://www.oaklandmills.com).

Equal Business Opportunity Initiative!

Howard County Government is committed to fostering a strong socio-economic environment by promoting diversity and inclusiveness in its purchasing activities. To this effect, the County's Equal Business Opportunity Program is designed to enhance opportunities and increase participation of minority, woman and disabled business enterprises. For more information on how your business can benefit from this program, contact **Mahesh Sabnani**, Equal Business Opportunity Coordinator, Office of Purchasing at **410-313-3694**. Mr. Sabnani will be pleased to provide your business with guidance, assistance and direction.

Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

4H Club: For youth grades 3+. Meets 2nd Friday of the month at The Other Barn 3:30-5pm. Call **410-992-3726** for more info

Art Attack Creative after-school enrichment program from the Columbia Art Center. Meets 1st and 2nd Mondays.

Registration/Fees may apply. Call 410-992-3726.

Columbia Teen Center http://www.columbiaassociation.com/content/getinvolved/teens/teen_center.cfm or 410-992-3726

FINALLY! Something to Do in Howard County www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=52321251379

Howard County Library www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22

Voices For Change <http://www.facebook.com/HCV4C#!/HCV4C/info> or email MMekelburg7@verizon.net

Youth Howard County www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=47846991445&v=info&ref=ts

Health Care Options For You or Your Family!

The “Door to HealthCare” provides for the consolidation of applications and application processes for the numerous health programs available for those who are under/uninsured. Individuals sit down with a counselor or work alone at a kiosk to enter personal data (including: family make0up, income, etc.) which will determine the programs for which you and/or family members are eligible. The information will quickly be transferred electronically into the proper application and the process is complete. Services provided include: MCHP, MA, PAC and the Healthy Howard Health Plan.

“The Door to HealthCare” is located to the rear of **7178 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia, MD.** For further information, call **410-988-3737**.



Help Those in Need - Route 1 Day Center and Living in Recovery Needs Your Help!

The Day Resource Center relies on donations and volunteers to make meaningful contributions to the lives of those they serve. Please consider by helping by donating the following items that are in short supply: Batteries, men’s underwear, men’s jeans, thermal socks, bottled water – 20oz size, Gatorade, peanut butter and jelly, tuna, canned chicken, chef Boyardee-15oz can, spaghetti-15oz can, chunky soups, dinty moore beef stew, baked beans with meat, underwood deviled ham, libby’s canned corned beef, Vienna sausages, spam, beef jerky and canned fruit. There are also volunteer opportunities at the Center and outside the Center. Please check their website for current lists of supply and volunteer needs at www.daycenter.org.

Living in Recovery is a new nonprofit organization formed to provide sober housing for persons in recovery from drug or alcohol addiction. As they plan to open doors on their second house in July, they are turning to the community for furniture donations. Items in good condition should include: mattress (box springs and frames for twin), pillows, bedding sets, twin or full size only, dressers, night stands, bed lamps, sofas, arm chairs, end tables, floor lamps, dining table and chairs, folding chairs, coffee maker, toaster, toaster oven, microwave, vacuum cleaner, dinnerware, glassware, flatware, cookware, iron and board, towels bath mats, shower curtains, window coverings and drapes or shades. If you can help, please email Joe at JWillmott@verizon.net.

Make a Difference In a Student’s Life... A-Ok Mentors Needed!

A-OK (Assist Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc. is now recruiting adult volunteers to be mentor-tutors to Howard County public school students who need extra support and encouragement to succeed. Volunteers meet with students individually or in small groups, during the school day and in after school programs. A-OK seeks dependable community members who can commit to one hour/week for one school year.

Participating elementary schools are: Atholton, Bryant Woods, Cradlerock, Deep Run, Forest Ridge, Guilford, Longfellow, Phelps Luck, Running Brook and Stevens Forest. There are also limited opportunities to meet with older students. For more info, call Chava Kaplan at aokmentor@gmail.com or call **410-730-6030**

Share Your Opinion on the Howard County Public School System!

You are cordially invited to share your comments on the Howard County Public School System through the Goal 2 Survey. This survey measures your attitudes in five categories: welcoming environment, physical environment, discipline, nurturing learning environment and diversity/commonality. Your responses should reflect your feelings about the school your child attends. To participate, click [here](#). For assistance or for more info, call **410-313-7475** or **410-313-6755**.

Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

TAX CREDITS: The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at

<http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling **410-313-4076**. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amateur Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker:

<http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Trash Collection Fee Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

"Your Local Career Connection" Helps In Your Search For Employment!

Howard County's Office of Workforce Development is here for you! The center is geared towards meeting the workforce and employment needs of businesses and job seekers in the 12th century labor market. They provide companies and individuals ranging from professional, technical and managerial to entry level. It offers residents a variety of tools to aid in a job search. The full service center is equipped with computers, fax machines, telephones, internet access and copiers – all to assist you with your employment search. Customized recruitment events are held for businesses and space is available to use for interviewing.

For more details, visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/departments.aspx?ID=1863> or call **410-290-2620**. The calendar of events is online at <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/county/howard/howcal.shtml>.

FREE Career Advancement and Computer Training for Adults!

Find a job or move up in your current position! This opportunity is **FREE** for low- to moderate-income residents of Howard County. Registration is **Mondays 10am-2pm** or by appointment and is located at Pinnacle Career Resources, Chartwell Professional Park, 8180 Lark Brown Road, Suite 301 in Elkridge. For more details, call Cindy at **410-799-1097**.

Do You Need Bulk-Item Pick-Up?

Bulk Trash Item pick-up has resumed but items must be scheduled by calling **410-313-6444** or visiting www.HowardCountyBulkPickup.org. These items typically do not fit in trash cans and could include mattresses, chairs, sofas, dressers, tables, etc. Bulk METAL Item pick-up began starting **October 1, 2012** and must be scheduled in advance by calling **410-313-6444**. Items must be placed at the curb by 6am (no earlier than 6pm the night before). Please do not block mailboxes or fire hydrants. **NOTE:** It is illegal for anyone except Howard County's contractors to pickup scrap metal at the curb (Howard County Code 18.610)

Foreign Born Information and Referral Network!

The Foreign Born Information and Referral Network, **5999 Harpers Farm Road, Suite 200-E** in Columbia needs Spanish-speaking volunteers to greet clients, answer basic questions, make appointments and support the staff. Hours are 9am-1pm or 1-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Other times may be considered. For more information, call **410-992-1923 x 14**.

Vacancies on Howard County's Boards and Commissions

Howard County Government is actively seeking volunteers to serve on several Boards and Commissions. Below you will find details including information on how to apply.

- **Alcohol & Drug Abuse Advisory Board.** Board members serve five year terms and help review services and the need for services relating to alcohol or drug abuse education, treatment and prevention in Howard County. Candidates must be 18yrs or older, have an interest in drug and alcohol treatment and prevention services and be able to attend the Board's meetings on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:15-6:30pm. For details, call **410-313-6225**.
- **Board of Social Services.** Board members serve three year terms and provide advice on the application and formulation of state policies, procedures and programs that apply to Howard County and to evaluate the local director of the Department of Social Services. Candidates must be Howard County residents, 18yrs or older, have an interest in social services, and be able to attend the Board's meetings held the third Monday of each month at 4pm in the Department of Social Services Conference Room, 7121 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia. For details, call **410-872-8767**.
- **Commission for Women.** Commission members serve five year terms and help to promote the economic, social and political equality of women in Howard County. The Commission publicizes services and activities of interest to women, promotes a positive image of women and recognizes their accomplishments, encourages the expansion of educational and employment opportunities for women and sponsors workshops and seminars on issues specific to women. Candidates must be Howard County residents, 18 years of age or older, have an interest in women equality and be able to attend the Commission's meetings which are held the second Tuesday of each month from 7-9pm in the Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia. For details, call **410-313-6400**.
- **Consumer Affairs Advisory Board.** Board members serve five year terms and are responsible for reviewing the Office of Consumer Affairs programs, holding public hearings as deemed necessary and making recommendations to the Office on how it may better carry out its duties. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must be Howard County residents, 18 years of age or older, have an interest in consumer issues and be able to attend the Board's meetings which are held the third Wednesday of each month from 7-9pm at the Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way in Columbia.
- **Board of Electrical Examiners.** Commission is comprised of seven members who serve five year terms and must include two licensees under electrical regulations or representatives of an electrical inspection bureau, one electrical engineer and four general public members. Board members are responsible for making recommendations to the Director of Inspections, Licenses and Permits (DILP), the County Executive and the County Council on all matters relating to electrical work in Howard County, including the conduct of electrical business and licenses. To be eligible, candidates must be Howard County residents, 18 years of age or older and have an interest in electrical work. The Board meets on an as needed basis; meetings are held at 5pm in DILP, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City. For more info, visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/electriclexaminersboard.htm> or call **410-313-1820**.
- **Recreation & Parks Advisory Board – Student Member.** The Board is comprised of nine voting members who serve five year terms and one student, non-voting member, who serves a one-year term from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. The Advisory Board provides recommendations related to plans, policies and programs for public recreation and reviews plans for and hold hearings on the acquisition and development of land for public recreation and open space. Candidates must be Howard County residents, under the age of 18 years old, have an interest in recreation and parks and be able to attend the Board's meetings which are held approximately once a month throughout the year beginning at 7:30pm at the Department of Recreation and Parks Headquarters, 7120 Oakland Mills Road in Columbia. For details, call **410-313-4700** or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/RAP.

Applicants should send a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve to: Howard County Government, Department of County Administration, Attn: Susan Smith-Bauk, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

BRAC Corner!

Are you a business owner interested in becoming a contractor or already a Defense Contractor looking for additional information? The BRAC Business Initiative (BBI) is inviting businesses interested in accessing government contracting opportunities and becoming a qualified prime or sub-contractor to register with the BBI's new Match-Up Database. A number of defense contractors and government agencies are already using the Match-Up Database to determine which BBI businesses may possess the capabilities they require. Many companies registered in the Database have already been selected to meet with large prime contractors to partner and increase business.

Here is a list of the upcoming important events:

- **Wednesday, October 31, 2012 8am-12pm:** 21st Baltimore-Washington Region Government Procurement Fair. Learn how to conquer government procurement opportunities! This event includes matchmaking sessions, information briefings, panel discussions and over 50 different government agencies. For more info, visit www.bwcc.org or call 301-725-4000.

The database is **FREE** of charge and open to all local companies interested in generating more business within the defense community. The Match-Up Database can be found at <http://www.selfvetting.com/events/BBI/APL/> and registering in the database automatically makes a company a member of the BBI.

For any questions on the BBI or our monthly update meetings, call **Raj Kudchadkar** at **410-313-6376** or email rkudchadkar@howardcountymd.gov.

CAC's Weatherization Program Changes Eligibility Requirements to

The Community Action Council administers the Weatherization program for the State of Maryland. Recently, the State has changed the eligibility criteria for the program to include moderate income families. As such, the program is no longer only targeting low income families. Based upon the new guidelines, many friends and family members might be eligible for this wonderful **FREE** service.

Is your home energy efficient? Determine if you are eligible for **FREE** weatherization services. Maximum family income for eligibility is as follows:

Family Size	Gross Monthly Income
1	\$4,079
2	\$4,663
3	\$5,242
4	\$5,821
5	\$6,292

Applications are available online at http://cac-hc.org/cac_howtoapplyweatherization.htm. For more info, call 410-313-1181.



Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard county Police Department and the community designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at 410-313-2200.

Give the Gift of Independence!

Neighbor Ridge launched its volunteer-based transportation service in 2004 with the mission to decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County's older residents. Today, its dedicated volunteers provide an average of 1,000 trips per month for medical appointments, shopping, social outings, personal care and business, religious services, volunteer activities and other day-to-day needs.

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience. Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer or Rosemary Noble** at 410-884-RIDE (7433) or email volunteer@neighborride.org for more information.

"Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register online at www.commuterconnections.org or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).

Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, visit <http://countyofhowardmd.us/whatshouldidowith.htm> or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or visit <http://countyofhowardmd.us/recycling.htm>.

Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- Experiencing an Emergency? Dial 9-1-1
- Want to report an incident, non-emergency? Call 410-313-2200
- Need to report drug activity? Call 410-290-3784 or email ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov
- Want to make an anonymous tip (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email GangTips@howardcountymd.gov
- Want to report gun crimes? Call 410-313-7867 or email CToler@howardcountymd.gov.
- Do you need Victim Assistance? Call 410-313-3712 or email KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov
- Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey? Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment. For more info, call the Special Operations Bureau at 410-313-3758 or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/aboutpolice.htm>
- Want to start a Neighborhood Watch? Call the Community Services Section at 410-313-4780.
- Looking to prevent Auto Theft? Helpful tips available at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/departments.aspx?ID=6442451452>
- Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.? Call 410-313-2780, email animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- Are speeders in your neighborhood? Consider the SMART Program initiative. Info available at www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_smartprogram.htm
- Looking for personal safety tips? Visit www.co.ho.md.us/police/pd_personalsafety.htm
- Interested in a Police Ride-Along? Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- Need a HCPD Spanish line? Call 410-313-7807.
- Interested in volunteering with the HCPD? Call 410-313-2255
- Interesting in HCPD Recruitment? Call 410-313-4273.

Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: **1-800-506-5806**.

Medicare Patients – Looking for a Local Doctor!

The Medicare.gov site is the place to find information about Medicare. The webpage provides detailed information about the basics of Medicare, resources, preventative health care and much more. If you're looking for a local doctor who accepts Medicare, visit www.Medicare.gov/find-a-doctor. Fill in your zipcode and any preferences you might have and instantly you will be given a list of providers in your area! For more details, call **1-800-MEDICARE**.

How and When to Use the Emergency Room!

Remember in Howard County, there are a number of affordable alternatives to the Emergency Room if you are ill (coughs, colds, ear infections, minor burns, strains/sprains), but **not** experiencing a medical emergency. These "minute clinics" are a great resource to receive medical attention on a weekend, late night, or simply when your regular physician cannot see you. Many have extended and weekend hours and do not require appointments. Most accept insurance but please call the provider/clinic for details.

For additional information or a list of providers, visit our Health Department's [website](#) or call **410-313-6300**.

Alzheimer's Support Groups in Howard County!

Howard County proudly offers several Alzheimer's Support Groups at various locations throughout the County during days and times that are geared at accommodating the needs of those impacted by Alzheimer's. Pre-screening is required. For support group locations in Howard County, click [here](#). For more information on the Alzheimer's Association, call **1-800-272-3900** or visit www.alz.org/maryland.

In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland and empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services.

Grassroots provides programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at **6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044**. For more information, please call **410-531-6006** or visit their website online at www.grassrootscrisis.org. The 24-hour line is **410-531-6677** and the MD Crisis Hotline is **1-800-422-0009**.

RECYCLE your old TV's!

The Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services would like to remind residents to recycle analog TV's rather than throw them away. Options: Alpha Ridge Landfill Resident's Convenience Area open 8am-4pm Mon-Sat and Best Buy's Customer Take-Back Program. For more info, call **410-313-6444**.

At-Large Members Needed for Community Advisory Council!

The Community Advisory Council to the Board of Education is currently seeking at-large members for the coming school year. The council sponsors educational programming for members and provides the opportunity to study and have input into curriculum, educational policy, redistricting and budget.

The committee meets at **7:30pm** the third Tuesday of each month at the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD. At-large members serve a two-year term. For more information, please call **410-313-6682** or email tjmallo@verizon.net.

Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/DisplayPrimary.aspx?ID=4294969242>. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-2005**.

View the Council's Current Legislation and Calendar and Stay Informed!

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. To view legislation under consideration by the Council, please click on the following link <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Displayprimary.aspx?ID=4294968832>. Council meetings open to the public and I encourage you to join us. A list of upcoming meetings can be found online at <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/displayprimary.aspx?ID=6442459444>.

I Want to Hear From You!

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email to Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov or fax 410-313-3297.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**.

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http://www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm